refineries/fractionators in the country during the current year. Normal production of the RIL refinery has resumed from 1st December 2005, and the backlog in LPG booking is expected to be cleared in a couple of weeks. OMCs have resumed the release of new LPG connections from 1st December 2005 onwards.

(d) The system of booking for LPG refills on the telephone is continuing.

Pipavav Power Project

2997. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Gujarat has represented to the Centre is concern for not being able to implement the Pipavav Power Project because of non-supply of gas despite Centre's commitment in the past;

(b) whether Government would allocate the required quantity of gas for this project from Tapti fields since the production has now started in this field; and

(c) whether the Central Government has gone back on its commitment leading to grave injustice to the Saurashtra region for whose development, this power is very crucial?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER): (a) to (c) An in-principle allocation of 2.25 MMSCMD of gas was made to the Pipavav Power Proejct on the 5th June 2000. This allocation was subject to the condition that the Management Committee (MC) of the Tapti field will take the investment decision for additional development of the field. It was also stipulated that the date of commencement of gas supply could undergo a change depending on the investment decision which was to be taken by the MC of the Tapti field. The 'in-principle' allocation was not a commitment as such but an expressive of the positive intent of the Government. It may be mentioned that gas from Additional Development of Tapti fields is not covered under the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) and the price is to be determined in terms of the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) between the JV and the Government. The development plan for the production of

additional gas from the mid-and south Tapti fields has been approved by the MC of the field. The plan is at present under implementation and additional production is likely to commence from mid-2007.

In the meanwhile, as per the terms of the PSC, the Tapti JV has been allowed to market JV gas, including additional gas, at market related prices. Therefore, the Pipavav Project developers has to tie-up their gas requirement with the JV concerned at market-related price.

Since the allocation for the Pipavav Power Project was tied up with the Tapti Field, and the price of gas that would be available after additional development of the field is governed by the PSC signed between the operator and the Government, the Government of Gujarat have been advised by the Central Government to directly approach the Tapti JV for a gas tie-up for the proposed project at a mutually negotiated price.

Complaints against IGL

2998. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against Indraprastha Gas Limited regarding deposits of some amounts for pipelines in Vasant Kunj area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken/ propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER): (a) Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) have been receiving inquiries regarding the status of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) supply in the Vasant Kunj area from residents who have registered themselves for such connections.

(b) IGL have reported that in the year 2003, they had initiated the registration process for Piped Natural Gas in the Vasant Kunj area against a payment of Rs. 500 as registration fee. 715 Initially, only 500 registrations were received from 24 pockets of Vasant Kunj area. In the year 2004, after obtaining initial permissions from the local authorities, work was started in three pockets: C-6, and C-9. These pockets were initially